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Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EA/IMS:ECTNGRAHAM:LGR
APPROVED BY EA/IMS:EDWARD C. INGRAHAM
H - MR. JENKINS
L/EA - MR. ROH
---------- 078963
R 012026Z NOV 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 240791

STADIS//////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, ID
SUBJECT: INQUIRY RE JANUARY 15 DETAINEE, BUYUNG NASUTION

1. CHARLES KIRKWOOD OF WASHINGTON LAW FIRM OF KIRKWOOD, KAPLAN, RUSSIN AND VECCHI HAS CONTACTED IMS ONCE AGAIN REGARDING DETENTION BY GOI OF BUYUNG NASUTION, WHO IS ONE OF FIRM'S PARTNERS. ACCORDING TO KIRKWOOD, SENATOR CRANSTON (WHO HAS BEEN INTERESTED IN CASE) HAS VOLUNTEERED TO RAISE MATTER PERSONALLY WITH GENERAL IBNU SUTOWO DURING LATTER'S VISIT TO CALIFORNIA NEXT WEEK AND ALSO WITH SULTAN OF YOGYAKARTA (JUST HOW HE PLANS TO CONTACT SULTAN NOT SPECIFIED). CRANSTON HAS ALSO OFFERED TO PROVIDE IBNU AND SULTAN WITH WRITTEN REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF NASUTION.

2. KIRKWOOD IS UNDECIDED WHETHER SENATOR CRANSTON'S INTER-VENTION WOULD BE HELPFUL TO NASUTION OR COULD HARM HIS POSITION. HE WISHES TO SEEK OPINION OF TOM BROWN IN KIRKWOOD'S JAKARTA OFFICE BUT HESITATES TO TELEPHONE HIM BECAUSE OF LIKELIHOOD CALL BEING MONITORED. KIRKWOOD ASKED WHETHER EMBASSY COULD DISCREETLY CONVEY FOREGOING TO BROWN AND OBTAIN HIS REACTION. HE WAS TOLD WE WOULD PASS HIS
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REQUEST TO EMBASSY BUT LEAVE TO EMBASSY'S DISCRETION

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WHETHER TO CONTACT BROWN.

3. IF EMBASSY HAS NO OBJECTION, WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF EMBOFF COULD PRIVATELY SOUND OUT BROWN RE FOREGOING. WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN EMBASSY'S OWN ASSESSMENT OF PROPRIETY ND EFFECTIVENESS OF SENATOR CRANSTON'S PROPOSED APPROACH TO IBNU AND SULTAN.

4. FYI: KIRKWOOD SAID HE UNDERSTOOD GOI WAS CONSIDERING DEAL BY WHICH NASUTION WOULD BE RELEASED IF HE AGREED TO LEAVE INDONESIA AND REMAIN ABROAD FOR A YEAR. KIRKWOOD COMMENTED THAT NASUTION INITIALLY DECIDED TO REJECT OFFER ("HE THINKS HE HAS TO STAY IN INDONESIA BECAUSE HE IS DETERMINED TO BE PRESIDENT ONE DAY") BUT HE BELIEVES NASUTION HAS RECONSIDERED AND WOULD NOW AGREE TO LEAVE COUNTRY IF OFFER STILL OPEN. INGERSOLL

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